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21 September 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Director, Central Intelligence

SUBJECT

: Unidentified Flying Object Reported on 20 September 1957

1. As reported by components of the US Air Defense Commond, on unidentified flying object (UFO) was tracked by US reduce on a relatively straight onuse from the costern tip of Long Island to the vicinity of Buildo. The object was reportedly moving westward at an ultitude of 50,000 feet and speed of 2,000 kts. "Jamming" was reported by several reduces in this vicinity and westward as for as Chicego. In a subsequent briefing for representatives of the IAC, the US Air Force reported that the original reports had been degraded semewhat by information that: (a) there was an 11 minute break in the track; (b) was the conditions in the area were of the type which have in the past produced false reder pips and electronic interformation (c) B-47's of SAC were in the case near Chicago on an ECM training flight. The ADC has not completed its investigation of this incident, but in any ovent it new seems clear that the phenomena reported west of Buffalo were not related to the UFO.

2. We have no intelligence on Soviet activities (e.g., long-range air, sybmarine, or merchant shipping operations) which can be related specifically to this reported event. We believe it unlikely that a Soviet directift could conduct a mission at this speed and obtitude and return to Blac territory. However, we credit the USSR with the coordility to have a submerine-lounched cruise-type missile of low with the period on a conget of about 500 n.m., but we have no specific evidence of the axistance of such a missile.

3. We have examined possible Soviet motives for lounching a one-way vehicle on an operation over the US, and consider that there would be little motivation of this time, except possibly a psychological or retallatory motive, which we believe is marginal. One-way reconnaissance operations are largely ruled out by the likelihood that the results would be of small value, and the risk of compromise would be very great.



MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Director, Central Intelligence

SUBJECT

: Unidentified Flying Object Separted on 20 September 1957

1. As reported by components of the US Air Defense Command, on unidentified flying object (UFO) was tracked by US raders on a relatively straight cause from the costern tip of Long Island to the vicinity of Buffalo. The object was reportedly moving westward of an ultitude of 50,000 feet and speed of 2,000 kts. "Jemming" was reported by several raders in this vicinity and westward as far as Chicego. In a subsequent briefing for representatives of the IAC, the US Air Force reported that the original reports had been degraded sensewhat by information that: (a) there was an 11 minute breck in the track; (b) was ther conditions in the area ware of the type which have in the past produced false rader pips and electronic interference; (c) Be47's of SAC ware in the case near Chicago on an ECM training flight. The ADC has not completed its investigation of this incident, but in any ovent it new seems clear that the phenomena reported west of Buffalo ware not related to the UFO.

2. We have no intelligence on Soviet activities (e.g., long-range air, submarine, or merchant shipping operations) which can be related spacifically to this reported event. We believe it unlikely that a Soviet aircraft cauld conduct a mission of this speed and altitude and ratum to Bloc territory. Nowever, we cradit the USSR with the appability to have a submarine-lounched cruise-type missile of low performance and a range of about 500 n.m., but we have no specific evidence of the axistence of such a missile.

3. We have examined possible Soviet motives for idunching a one-way vehicle on an operation over the US, and consider that there would be little mativation at this time, except passibly a psychological or retailatory mative, which we believe is marginal. One-way recommissance operations are largely ruled out by the likelihood that the results would be of small value, and the risk of compromise would be very oreal.



4. We conclude, therefore, that it is highly improbable that a Soviet operation is responsible for the UFO reports of 20 September.

5. Considering the fects that the ADC investigation is incomplete, and that weather phonomena are increasingly likely explanations of the original reports, we recommend that no IAC meeting be called on this subject at this time.

Herbert Semila Si

HEREERT_SCOVILLE, Jr.

Copies to IAC Agencies as follows:

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FBI		•			
JIG		2			
ARMY		3			
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